### STATE OF IOWA

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

#### **UTILITIES BOARD**

IN RE:

DOCKET NO. SPU-2018-0004

MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY

# ORDER VERIFYING 2017 RENEWABLE ENERGY PERCENTAGE

(Issued June 22, 2018)

On April 2, 2018, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed a "Petition for Verification" (Petition) with the Utilities Board (Board) requesting the Board verify that MidAmerican served 50.8% of its retail load using renewable energy in 2017.

On April 16, 2018, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the lowa Department of Justice, filed a "Response" stating it has reviewed MidAmerican's Petition and does not object.

Pursuant to Board rules at 199 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) chapter 30, a utility may petition the Board to verify a specified percentage of a utility's energy generation is renewable energy. Board rule at 199 IAC 30.2(3) requires utilities requesting verification to submit the following information:

- a. Evidence that the utility records all of its RECs in a tracking system or has transferred RECs recorded in other tracking systems to a tracking system.
- b. Evidence that the MWh of qualifying renewable generation claimed to have been generated during the prior period were in fact generated by the utility's own renewable generation

DOCKET NO. SPU-2018-0004 PAGE 2

facilities or purchased by the utility from a renewable facility along with the associated RECs during the prior period. Purchased RECs that are not bundled with the associated energy will not be counted as part of the REP unless the purchased RECs were used to replace otherwise eligible RECs. The purchased RECs must be purchased during the prior period, and their purchase price must be lower than the price of the sold RECs.

- c. Evidence that the number of RECs claimed to have been retired were in fact retired on behalf of the utility's retail customers in the tracking system. Such evidence shall consist of a screenshot of the tracking system's web page that shows the certificate numbers of the retired RECs, the retirement account to which the RECs were transferred and the date of retirement. The utility shall authorize the board to access the tracking system for purposes of verifying the information. Verification of the information shall not constitute personal investigation in connection with any future contested case, the specific controversy underlying that contested case, or a pending factually related contested case or controversy involving the same parties.
- d. An affidavit signed by a corporate officer verifying the accuracy of the REP calculation, the underlying data used in the calculation, compliance with this rule, and the evidence filed in support of it.

MidAmerican filed with the Board retirement information from Midwest

Renewable Energy Tracking System (M-RETS) and PJM Generation Attribute

Tracking System (PJM-GATS). MidAmerican stated it does not record its renewable generation in other tracking systems.

MidAmerican states that it owns most of its generation with a small amount subject to power purchase arrangements. All power purchase arrangements entered into by MidAmerican include the renewable attributes of the generation.

DOCKET NO. SPU-2018-0004 PAGE 3

MidAmerican provided Exhibit B, which shows a listing of all generation along with the REC retirement serial numbers for M-RETS. MidAmerican also provided Exhibit C which gives retirement information for PJM-GATS.

MidAmerican included an affidavit by Thomas B. Specketer, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, as Exhibit A to its filling to verify the accuracy of the information provided.

Board staff has confirmed the information provided by MidAmerican is consistent with the information available in the databases for M-RETS and PJM-GATS. Staff has completed its review and recommends verifying MidAmerican served 50.8% of its retail load using renewable energy in 2017.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The Utilities Board verifies that MidAmerican Energy Company served 50.8% of its retail load using renewable energy in 2017.

**UTILITIES BOARD** 

	/s/ Geri D. Huser	_
ATTEST:	/s/ Nick Wagner	_
/s/ Trisha M. Quijano Executive Secretary, Designee	/s/ Richard W. Lozier Jr.	

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2018.